

Minutes of the 3 April 2012
Special Meeting of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners
Held at 6:30 o'clock p.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room
Yancey County Courthouse, Burnsville, North Carolina

Present for the special meeting of the Yancey County Board of County Commissioners were Chairman Johnny Riddle, Member Jill Austin, Member Dale England, Member Marvin Holland, Member Michele Presnell, County Manager Nathan Bennett, Clerk to the Board Jason Robinson, Representative Ray Rapp, and Senator Ralph Hise.

Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Riddle called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Holland made a motion to approve the agenda and it was seconded by Commissioner Presnell. The vote to approve was unanimous. (Attachment A).

Legislative Update

The Board first heard from Senator Ralph Hise. Mr. Hise gave the Board an update of the biannual budget and stated that revenues were coming in better than expected at about \$150 million. He further stated that when the short session begins there will be a shortfall of about \$150-\$200 million. Mr. Hise continued by saying that legislation is planned to be taken up this session to cap the gas tax and that an overhaul of the tax structure would begin in the long session. Commissioner Holland had a couple questions of the schools budget and about funds that were stopped in 2005 for lands owned in counties by the federal and state government where property tax is not assessed. Mr. Hise stated that not all of the "EduJobs" money could be maintained but they were doing what they could to "back fill" that money. He further stated that he would look into the other question.

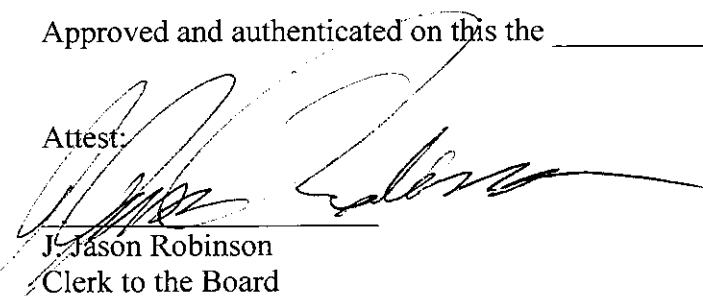
The Board next heard from Representative Ray Rapp. Mr. Rapp started by talking about the opening of the four lane highway into Yancey County that is due to open this fall. He stated that this is crucial for economic development. Mr. Rapp also gave an update on video gaming sweepstakes and about a court ruling dealing with video gaming sweepstakes. He stated that this was something that very important for our state. Mr. Rapp next turned to the current budget and stated that it was problematic. He further stated that several superintendents of schools were meeting today in Durham and feels that they were sending out of a cry for help for their school systems. Mr. Rapp stated that \$429 million had been reverted back to the state in this budget from the local school districts. He further stated that this budget had \$1.3 billion in revenue lost because of the leadership allowed the 1 cent sales tax to sunset along with taxes on the upper income earners. Mr. Rapp also highlighted a \$414 million cut to the university system causing some 9,600 students to lose their need based financial aid and a 10% across the board cut to the community college system at a time when enrollment is up.

Adjournment

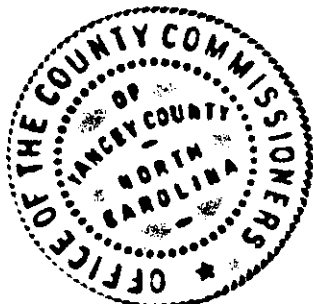
Having no further business Commissioner Presnell made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner England and the vote to adjourn was unanimous.

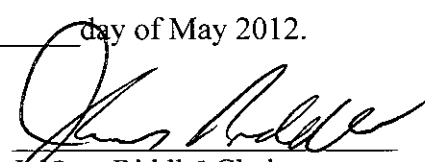
Approved and authenticated on this the _____ 1st _____ day of May 2012.

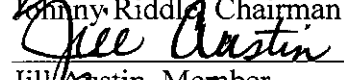
Attest:



Jason Robinson
Clerk to the Board

(county seal)

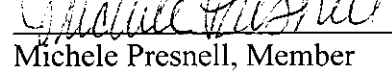



Johnny Riddle, Chairman


Jill Austin, Member


Dale England, Member


Marvin Holland, Member


Michele Presnell, Member

Attachment A

COUNTY MANAGER
Nathan Bennett



COMMISSIONERS
Jill Austin
Dale England
Marvin Holland
Michele Presnell
Johnny Riddle

YANCEY COUNTY

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AGENDA
YANCEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
April 3, 2011
6:30 P.M.

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Johnny Riddle
- II. Approval of the Agenda
- III. Legislative Report (N.C. Senate) – Senator Ralph Hise
- IV. Legislative Report (N.C. House of Representatives) – Representative Ray Rapp
- V. Adjourn